



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Application of:)
Applicants: Raymundo Saenz, et al.)
Serial No.: 09/974,739)
Filed: 10/09/2001)
Title: Valve And Method For A)
Brake Control Actuator)

Examiner: Douglas C. Butler
Group Art Unit: 3683

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GROUP 3
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
Box Fee Amendment
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

This amendment is in response to the Office Action dated November 13, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims:

4. (Once Amended) A valve for a brake control actuator comprising:
a rod operable between respective operating conditions to selectively allow passage of brake fluid through the valve; and
a ball affixed at one end of the rod, the ball including a sealing section that upon engagement against a ball-receiving seat in the valve blocks passage to brake fluid therethrough, the ball further including a mounting section integral with the sealing section, the mounting section configured to provide a reduced footprint relative to a spheroidal footprint and enable a strong mechanical joint between the mounting section and the rod, wherein the mounting section comprises a cylindrical section circumferentially defining a midsection of the ball.

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